

Senate Bill No. 1686

CHAPTER 469

An act to add Section 1356 to the Fish and Game Code, relating to wildlife conservation.

[Approved by Governor September 26, 2006. Filed with
Secretary of State September 26, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1686, Kuehl. Wildlife conservation: project impact on greenhouse gases.

Under the Wildlife Conservation Law of 1947, the Wildlife Conservation Board may authorize the Department of Fish and Game or the State Public Works Board to acquire real property, rights in real property, water, or water rights for the benefit of wildlife. Under that law, money in the Wildlife Restoration Fund, which is continuously appropriated, is available for expenditure for those purposes. Existing law requires the Secretary of the Resources Agency to establish the California Climate Action Registry (registry) as a public benefit nonprofit corporation, and makes legislative findings and declarations relating to the registry. Existing law requires the registry to perform various functions, including, among other things, the adoption of procedures and protocols for the reporting and certification of greenhouse gas emission reductions resulting from a project or an action of a participant in the registry.

This bill would authorize the board, when it prioritizes the use of available funds for proposed acquisitions, with regard to the priority of a proposal to acquire forestland, to consider and take into account the potential of that proposed acquisition to beneficially reduce or sequester greenhouse gas emissions. The bill would authorize the board to use information developed by the registry as a basis for determining a project's potential to reduce or sequester greenhouse gas emissions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1356 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to read:

1356. The board, when it prioritizes the use of available funds for proposed acquisitions, with regard to the priority of a proposal to acquire forestland, may consider and take into account the potential of that proposed acquisition to beneficially reduce or sequester greenhouse gas emissions. The board may use policies, protocols, or other relevant information developed by the California Climate Action Registry as a

basis for determining a project's potential to reduce or sequester greenhouse gas emissions.

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